

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the third full paragraph on page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

As noted above, in the alternative embodiment incorporating a surfactant, the fabric of the topsheet ~~[[36]]~~ 22 may be surface treated with about 0.3 weight percent of a surfactant mixture which contains a mixture of AHCOVEL Base N-62 and GLUCOPON 220UP surfactant in a 3:1 ratio based on a total weight of the surfactant mixture. Other possible classes of surfactants include MASIL SF 19 and DC 193 Surfactant. The AHCOVEL Base N-62 is purchased from Uniqema (a division of ICI, and having offices in New Castle, DE), and includes a blend of hydrogenated ethoxylated castor oil and sorbitan monooleate. The GLUCOPON 220UP is purchased from Cognis Corporation and includes an alkyl polyglycoside. MASIL SF 19 and DC 193 Surfactant are purchased from BASF (Gurnee, IL), and Dow Corning (Midland, MI), respectively. MASIL SF 19 and DC 193 Surfactant are examples of typical ethoxylated polyalkylsiloxanes. The surfactant may be applied by any conventional means, such as saturation, spraying, printing, roll transfer, slot coating, brush coating, internal melt addition or the like. The surfactant may be applied to the entire topsheet 22 or may be selectively applied to particular sections of the topsheet 22, such as the medial section along the longitudinal centerline of the diaper, to provide greater wettability of such sections.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 23 with the following paragraph:

The absorbent body 24 is desirably positioned in liquid communication with surge management layer 34 to receive liquids released from the surge management layer, and to hold and store the liquid. In the shown embodiments, the surge management layer 34 comprises a separate layer which is positioned, at least in part, over another separate layer comprising the absorbent body 24 and/or the second material 25 constituting the resilient material, thereby forming a dual-layer arrangement. The surge management layer 34 serves to quickly collect and temporarily hold discharged liquids, to transport such liquids from the point of initial contact and spread the liquid to other parts of the surge management layer 34, and then to substantially completely release such liquids into the layer or layers comprising the absorbent body 24.

Please replace the third full paragraph on page 23 with the following amended paragraph:

The surge management layer 34 can be of any desired shape. Suitable shapes include for example, circular, rectangular, triangular, trapezoidal, oblong, dog-boned, hourglass-shaped, or oval. In certain embodiments, for example, the surge management layer can be generally rectangular-shaped. In the illustrated embodiments, the surge management layer 34 is generally coextensive with the absorbent body 24. It is, however, contemplated that in ~~[[on]]~~ one or more embodiments the surge management layer 34 may extend over only a part of the absorbent body 24. Where the surge management layer 34 extends only partially along the length of the absorbent body 24, the surge management layer 34 may be selectively positioned anywhere along the absorbent body 24. For example, in some embodiments, the surge management layer 34 may function more efficiently when it is offset toward the front waist section 12 of the garment. The surge management layer 34 may also be approximately centered about the longitudinal center line of the absorbent body 24.